



## Mirtha Villarreal-Younger

Deputy Secretary, Minority Veterans Affairs  
California Department of Veterans Affairs



Governor Brown appointed Mirtha Villarreal-Younger as Deputy Secretary, Minority Veterans Affairs at the California Department of Veterans Affairs on 31 July 2013. Prior to her appointment, she was the director of state personnel at the California Military Department, where she served in multiple positions since 2001, including deputy director of state personnel programs, state equal employment officer, deputy director of public affairs and command information officer and chief of community relations. Villarreal-Younger was a force integration officer at the California Army National Guard from 1997 to 2001.

Villarreal-Younger began her military career in 1986 by enlisting in the United States Army after completing high school. She served 22 years, 11 active and 11 with the National Guard. As an enlisted soldier, she served as a nuclear, biological, chemical warfare specialist and attained the rank of Staff Sergeant. Captain Villarreal was stationed in Germany and Fort Hood. In 1997, Villarreal-Younger graduated from the California State Officer Candidate School. Her military assignments have included: Platoon Leader, 118th Maintenance Company, Commander, 133rd Transportation Detachment, Train Assess Counsel (TAC) Officer, 223rd Regiment, OCS, Commander, 223rd Regiment, OCS, Public Affairs Officer 76<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade.

Mirtha is married to Major Martin Younger and has one daughter, Esperanza Younger.